



Michigan Crop Weather

Warm and Dry

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending August 1, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation ranged from 0.10 inches in the southwestern Lower Peninsula to 1.77 inches in the western Upper Peninsula. Temperatures ranged from 0 to 2 degrees above normal in the Lower Peninsula and 2 to 4 degrees above normal in the Upper Peninsula. It was another good week for fieldwork with only light rains during the week. Favorable weather conditions advanced farm activities across much of the state. Field activities included harvesting vegetables and wheat, second cutting of hay, spraying dry beans for western bean cutworms and soybeans for bean leaf beetle. Many producers in the central and east central Lower Peninsula were very anxious for some rain. “Another week of hot and dry conditions, the corn leaves are dry half way up the plants in many fields, and the soybeans have very few pods. The soybeans have been blossoming for a long time, but the heat has not allowed a good pod set,” reported one producer in the region.

Field Crops

Field crops needed rain after a week of lightly scattered precipitation and high temperatures. The warmer weather and increased growing degree days have resulted in many crops being ahead of schedule for the year. **Corn** followed this trend as it continued through pollination during the week. Fungicide sprays were being applied to prevent foliage concerns. Some pests have been causing small amounts of stalk and root damage. Early planted **soybean** pods were filling nicely. Areas around the Thumb consistently reported concern of having dry fields. **Sugarbeets** continued to show characteristics of a record crop. “We are very excited about this beet crop,” said one field reporter. Farmers worked on second and third **alfalfa** cutting. Conditions remained positive but were threatened by the continued dry weather. **Dry beans** were reported to be in variable stages of growth. **Wheat** harvest was completed. Yields were reported to be mixed with a few vomitoxin concerns. **Oat** and **barley** harvests increased, but with lower than expected yields.

Soil moisture for week ending 08/01/10

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	9	23	62	6
Subsoil	6	20	68	6

Crop condition for week ending 08/01/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	1	4	19	45	31
Barley	0	6	18	51	25
Corn	2	5	14	44	35
Dry beans	5	14	28	37	16
Oats	1	5	15	49	30
Pasture	3	6	22	48	21
Soybeans	2	5	21	48	24

Fruit

Rainfall totals have been variable across the state. Most farms in the southeast remain dry and have irrigated tree and small fruit crops the past two weeks. **Apples** ranged from 53 to 61 mm in the northwest, and fruit size was about 2.75 to 3 inches in the southwest and southeast. Early varieties of apples were being harvested in the southeast and southwest. European red mite numbers increased in the southwest. Predicted harvest dates for major varieties in the Grand Rapids area are 12 days earlier than normal. **Peaches** were 2.5 inches in the southeast; harvest of early varieties continued across the state. European **plums** ranged from 32 mm in the northwest to 2 inches in length and 1.5 inches in diameter and continued to color in the southeast. Harvest of early varieties has started in the southwest. **Strawberries** have rebounded well where soil moisture supplies have been adequate in the southeast. Growth in the southwest continued to be poor due to drought conditions and potato leafhoppers. Leaf spot infections in **sweet and tart cherries** have continued to cause leaf drop in the southeast. Tart cherry harvest has ended in the northwest. **Pears** ranged from 48 mm in the northwest to 2.0 to 2.25 inches in diameter in the southeast. Harvest of Clapp's Favorite has begun in the southwest. Harvest of **blueberries** continued. **Grapes** have green fruit in the northwest and veraison has begun in the southwest. Summer **raspberry** harvest continued in the southwest and has wrapped up in the southeast.

Vegetables

Warm weather and humidity continued. Rains were welcomed in some regions but other areas remained dry. Diseases were a concern in many areas. Harvest of **cabbage, yellow squash, zucchini** for fresh and processing, **cucumbers for pickles, sweet corn, potatoes, snap beans, peppers,** and **eggplant** continued. In the southwest, growers were removing early planted fields, preparing fields for replanting, and replanting cucumbers, zucchini and yellow squash. **Broccoli** and **cauliflower** were growing quickly, and some growers were still transplanting. Rust, earworms, and western bean cutworms were found in some sweet corn fields. In the Macomb County area, blackbirds and raccoons were damaging fields. **Onions** had falling tops and first fields were undercut. Thrip counts remained high. **Celery** harvest continued, however some growers were just beginning their first harvests. The crop has had presence of celery leaf-tier, variegated cutworm, aphids, bacterial blight, early blight and Fusarium. **Tomato** harvest continued. Harvest has slowed as crops have not been ripening quickly. Blossom end rot was present in pepper and tomato fields in the southwest. Vine crops, such as **pumpkins** and **fall squash**, continued sizing. Plants that had not set fruit had a very high male to female blossom ratio. **Watermelon** harvest is expected to begin next week in the southwest; harvest was underway in the southeast. Cucumber beetles were active in vine crops. On muck soils, **carrots, radishes, lettuce, beets, turnips,** and **leeks** were growing well. Beetle activity in Oceana County was still reported in **asparagus** fields. Ferns did not appear to be as large as they should be at this point in development.

Crop progress for week ending 08/01/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Corn, height	83	79	64	73
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, second cutting	71	59	62	72
All hay, third cutting	20	5	7	13
Barley, harvested	28	4	NA	NA
Blueberries, harvested	66	48	56	46
Corn, silked	94	83	44	77
Corn, dough	32	11	1	7
Corn, dent	2	NA	0	NA
Dry beans, blooming	81	56	30	62
Dry beans, setting pods	36	18	9	23
Oats, turning yellow	97	94	81	88
Oats, harvested	62	24	8	26
Peaches, harvested	23	18	19	22
Potatoes, harvested	1	0	6	5
Soybeans, blooming	89	76	66	81
Soybeans, setting pods	52	31	14	45
Tart cherries, harvested	98	94	51	78

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 08/01/10 ¹												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2010	2009	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	84	53		1,426	1,042		2.24	2.59	5.18	15.38		
Marquette	84	52		1,388	926		2.24	2.59	5.18	15.38		
Stephenson	85	53		1,634	1,208		0.57	1.31	3.98	15.57		
Western UP	86	46	2	1,435	999	1,195	1.77	2.14	4.99	15.11	12.77	3.69
Cornell	86	54		1,547	1,106		1.85	2.24	5.26	15.97		
Sault St Marie	85	52		1,435	936		0.31	0.52	1.29	9.21		
Eastern UP	87	50	4	1,399	938	1,016	0.93	1.41	4.30	14.04	12.01	3.53
Beulah	85	58		1,699	1,262		0.60	1.47	3.02	13.40		
Lake City	84	52		1,636	1,207		0.90	3.05	5.92	17.69		
Old Mission	86	56		1,630	1,161		0.43	1.72	2.01	12.62		
Pellston	86	49		1,564	1,094		0.20	0.47	1.25	12.69		
Northwest	86	49	2	1,591	1,144	1,358	0.47	1.49	2.57	12.94	11.38	3.11
Alpena	86	54		1,573	1,166		0.28	3.03	4.42	14.66		
Houghton Lake	83	53		1,707	1,209		1.12	3.28	5.31	14.43		
Rogers City	87	55		1,473	1,160		0.05	2.70	3.59	16.08		
Northeast	87	53	2	1,616	1,176	1,311	0.46	2.83	5.15	15.73	11.44	3.12
Fremont	83	56		1,853	1,379		0.03	0.82	2.14	9.53		
Hart	83	54		1,754	1,302		0.10	2.03	4.25	13.60		
Muskegon	85	60		1,984	1,485		0.02	2.03	3.53	13.01		
West Central	85	53	1	1,831	1,370	1,490	0.13	1.70	3.35	12.38	11.40	3.60
Alma	86	55		1,914	1,429		0.03	0.63	2.55	16.75		
Big Rapids	86	55		1,798	1,314		0.19	0.91	2.01	14.92		
Central	86	54	1	1,851	1,364	1,558	0.15	0.92	2.19	13.50	12.30	3.64
Bad Axe	86	59		1,789	1,294		0.15	1.59	4.40	17.01		
Pigeon	85	57		1,774	1,286		0.21	1.24	3.62	13.20		
Saginaw	86	58		2,006	1,442		0.25	1.16	2.27	12.33		
Standish	85	53		1,730	1,286		0.45	2.16	4.77	17.78		
East Central	87	53	1	1,791	1,325	1,543	0.25	1.42	3.36	14.71	11.23	2.93
Fennville	85	56		1,884	1,449		0.02	3.90	6.40	22.13		
Grand Rapids	86	60		2,095	1,610		0.02	2.30	4.26	20.43		
Holland	88	58		2,069	1,694		0.01	3.38	10.24	27.57		
South Bend, IN	91	60		2,127	1,750		0.31	3.48	4.34	19.06		
Watervliet	86	58		2,020	1,576		0.16	3.02	4.25	17.48		
Southwest	91	55	1	2,014	1,594	1,678	0.10	3.01	4.81	19.36	13.15	3.18
Belding	85	53		1,857	1,386		0.00	0.94	2.02	14.84		
Coldwater	86	57		2,069	1,640		0.42	2.77	3.24	16.09		
Lansing	86	57		2,035	1,520		0.01	1.48	1.99	13.50		
South Central	89	53	0	1,956	1,507	1,664	0.12	2.09	4.02	17.02	12.95	3.36
Detroit	91	63		2,188	1,717		0.47	4.22	5.95	18.61		
Flint	88	54		2,018	1,483		0.00	0.29	2.49	13.13		
Romeo	89	58		1,931	1,479		0.35	0.77	2.45	12.96		
Tipton	89	59		1,992	1,557		0.20	4.31	4.91	20.00		
Toledo, OH	92	59		2,215	1,751		0.82	4.30	5.02	18.71		
Southeast	92	54	1	2,026	1,603	1,642	0.36	2.45	4.18	17.39	12.60	3.12

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.